

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 9 AGENDA DATE: Thu 08/25/2005

PAGE: 1 of 2

<u>SUBJECT</u>: Authorize execution of a 12-month service agreement with E SOURCE-PLATTS, Boulder, CO, for subscription services of independent data and analysis of retail energy markets, services, and technologies, in an amount not to exceed \$101,200, with four 12-month extension options in an amount not to exceed \$101,200 per extension option, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$506,000.00.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding in the amount of \$8,433.33 is available in the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Operating Budget of Austin Energy. Funding for the remaining 11 months of the original contract period and extension options is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

FISCAL NOTE: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

REQUESTING Purchasing DIRECTOR'S

DEPARTMENT: for Austin Energy; AUTHORIZATION: Vickie Schubert

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Williams, Buyer II/322-6467

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: N/A

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: N/A

PURCHASING: Sole Source.

<u>MBE / WBE:</u> This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9 of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

Platts Research & Consulting, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., provides member organizations with unbiased, independent analysis of retail energy markets, services, and technologies. Platt's clients include electric and gas utilities and other energy service providers, large corporate and institutional energy users, government agencies, energy service companies, manufacturers, consultants, research institutions, and other organizations in nearly two-dozen countries worldwide.

Platts information services provides an impressive list of subscribers with an array of data and analysis. Membership and subscriptions may be renewed yearly. Clients include:

Core Membership Small Business Service Residential Service Green Energy Service Customer Connections (conservation related) Utility Customer Care Service

The following is a list of some, but not all, deliverables provided under this contract service:

Five copies of bi-monthly reports, Executive Briefings, and Strategic Issues Papers; Sixteen copies of E-News:

Two sets of Annual Technology Atlas volume updates;

Participation in Telephone Conferences (hosted by reported authors);

Inquiry and referral service privileges;

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Disposition:

Adjusted version published:



Purchasing Service Agreement CITY OF AUSTIN RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 9 AGENDA DATE: Thu 08/25/2005

PAGE: 2 of 2

Complimentary registration for One (1) delegate to the annual Strategic Issues Retreat; Complimentary registration for Two (2) delegates to the annual Members Forum; Password protected access to Web based products and services

A review of companies that offer similar kinds of services show that they are not comparable. This service constitutes a sole source purchase on the following grounds: 1) the research information and data created by the company analysts are proprietary and unique in nature; 2) the work products provided under this contract are copyrighted; 3) the research studies and work papers are unique to E Source-Platts.

This contract provides a significant resource in strategic planning initiatives for Austin Energy.

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